

Please add the following new claims:

Sub. B1 > --8. (New) A method for controlling an internal combustion engine having an exhaust treatment system that includes a particle filter, comprising the step of:

simulating a quantity characterizing a state congestion of the particle filter in accordance with at least one operating parameter of the internal combustion engine.

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9. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one operating parameter includes at least one of a rotational speed and a signal characterizing an injected fuel volume.

10. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the at least one operating parameter includes an oxygen concentration in the exhaust gas.

Sub. B2 > 11. (New) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of determining the oxygen concentration in the exhaust gas in accordance with operating parameters.

12. (New) The method according to claim 8, wherein the at least one operating parameter includes a temperature in the exhaust treatment system.

13. (New) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of controlling the exhaust treatment system during a normal operation in accordance with the quantity.

14. (New) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of detecting an error in accordance with the quantity.

15. (New) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of controlling the exhaust treatment system during an emergency operation in accordance with the quantity.

Sub. B3 16. (New) A device for controlling an internal combustion engine having an exhaust treatment system including a particle filter, comprising:

a unit configured to determine a quantity characterizing a state of congestion of the particle filter in accordance with at least one operating parameter of the internal combustion engine.--.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 9 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/01322. This Preliminary Amendment further cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 7 in the annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report and adds new claims 8 to 16. The new claims, inter alia, conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and does not add any new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without the claims) contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) are to conform the Specification and Abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules or to correct informalities. As required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)(3)(iii) and 1.125(b)(2), a Marked Up Version of the Substitute Specification comparing the Specification of record and the Substitute Specification also accompanies this Preliminary Amendment. Approval and